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Docket No.: 21581-00284-US

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of: Tsutomu Yuasa et al.

JAN 2 4 2005

Application No.: 10/025,588

Confirmation No.: 7945

Filed: December 26, 2001

Art Unit: 1713

For: POLYCARBOXYLIC ACID COPOLYMER,

Examiner: H. L. Pezzuto

PRODUCTION METHOD AND USE

THEREOF

## REQUEST FOR REFUND

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Deposit Account of the undersigned was charged \$430 on March 2, 2004 for 5 additional independent claims in connection with an amendment filed on February 12, 2004. This amount represents an overcharge of \$258 and a refund, by credit to Deposit Account 22-0185, is requested. The amendment of February 12, 2004 added 2 (not 5) more independent claims (for a total of 8 independent claims). Therefore, the amount due for additional independent claims was  $$86 \times 2 = $172$ . Previously, a charge to our Deposit Account included a charge for 3 additional independent claims over 3 for a total of 6 independent claims. (See attached Deposit Account Statement of May 21, 2002.)

It appears that in charging us on March 2, 2004 for  $886 \times 5 = 430$  additional independent claims, the PTO neglected to take into account that 6 of the 8 independent claims had previously been paid for.

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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

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